



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE

APPLICATION OF: Siegfried Luft, et al.

APPLICATION
No.: 09/887,299

FILED: June 22, 2001

TITLE: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR VARIABLE RATE PIPES

ART UNIT: 2661

EXAMINER: Not yet assigned

#8/A
L. M. Z. A. (V)
10.29.02

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Virginia Velazquez
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Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendment prior to
examination of this patent application:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph [0001] beginning on page 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1 [0001] This is a continuation of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Number 60/258,765,
entitled "Method and Apparatus for Variable Rate Pipes" filed on December 30, 2000. The
specification shares some text with patent application Serial No. 09/887,957, entitled "Method and
Apparatus for a Hybrid Variable Rate Pipe," filed June 22, 2001; application Serial No. 09/887,303,
entitled "Protection Mechanism for Optical Network," filed June 22, 2001; and application Serial
No. 09/887,302, entitled "Method and Apparatus for a Non-BLSR Protected Layer 2/3 Channel,"
filed June 22, 2001.